

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~With a subscriber having a first phone number, a~~ A push notification method for notifying ~~the~~ a subscriber having a first phone number and a subscriber profile comprising the steps of:

determining that at least one second phone number relating to said subscriber profile is available for subscription; and,

communicating to the subscriber, the availability of said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The method, as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein said step of communicating to the subscriber includes the step of~~ further including determining whether the subscriber is interested in subscribing to any of said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said step of communicating to the subscriber includes ~~the step of~~ automatically communicating to pushing notification to the subscriber in response to determining that said at least one second phone number is available for subscription.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said step of communicating to the subscriber includes ~~the step of~~ notifying the subscriber ~~from~~ by at least one of a placing a phone call, sending a mailpiece, sending a network communication, and in response to receiving a communication from the subscriber wherein said received communication is any communication other than that of a subscriber initiated request for subscribing to an available phone number.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The method, as set forth in claim 4, wherein said received communication from the subscriber is received from at least one of a phone call, mailpiece, and network communication.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~A~~ The method, as set forth in claim 5, wherein said mailpiece is one of a portable storage media, letter, postcard, and utility bill, said phone call is one of a voice, data, and fax, and said network communication is one of a URI, e-mail, bill, and web page data.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including ~~the step of~~ generating said at least one second phone number from the first phone number.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 7, further including ~~the step of~~ generating at least one more subscriber phone number for each said generated second phone number.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 7, wherein the first phone number and each said second phone number includes a plurality of digits and each said second phone number differs by at least one digit from the first phone number.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 7, wherein ~~the first phone number and said generated second phone number are~~ is at least one of a contiguous, same area code, same central exchange, and same block of 10, 100, 1,000 or 10,000 numbers with respect to the first phone number.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of~~ communicating to the subscriber includes ~~the step of~~ processing a phone call in a communication network to said the first phone number.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~step of~~ processing said phone call includes ~~the steps of~~ receiving dialed digits from a calling party corresponding to said the first phone number, placing a phone call connection from said calling party through the network to a called party of said the first phone number, and communicating with said called party to determine whether said called party is interested in subscribing to said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said phone call connection between said calling party and said called party is placed through one of a land line public switched telephone network, cellular network, AIN network, ATM, and IP telephony.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said calling party is

one of a service provider, telephone operator, and directory assistance provider.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said ~~step of~~ communicating with said called party includes ~~the step of~~ presenting a menu including options for one of a contacting said calling party and subscribing to said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 15, further including ~~the step of~~ receiving dialed digits entered by said calling party on a telephone keypad, said digits identifying a selected one of said options listed in said menu.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 15, further including ~~the step of~~ receiving speech captured from said calling party, said captured speech identifying a selected one of said options listed in said menu.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including ~~the step of~~ receiving from the subscriber a filter list having said at least one second phone number before determining whether said at least one second phone number is available.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 18, wherein said ~~step of~~ determining that said at least one second phone number is available for subscription includes ~~the step of~~ comparing each said generated second phone number to said filter list.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 1, further including ~~the step of~~ receiving a communication from the subscriber wherein said received communication is any communication other than that of a subscriber initiated request for subscribing to an available phone number.

Claim 21 (currently amended): ~~With a subscriber having a first phone number, an~~ An apparatus for notifying ~~the~~ a subscriber having a first phone number and a subscriber profile comprising:
a processor;
a memory in operative association with said processor;
means for determining that at least one second phone number relating to said subscriber profile

is available for subscription; and,

means for communicating to the subscriber, the availability of said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 22 (currently amended): ~~With a subscriber having a first phone number, an A computer program product for notifying the a subscriber having a first phone number and a subscriber profile comprising the steps of:~~

means for accessing a communication network;

means for determining that at least one second phone number relating to said subscriber profile is available for subscription; and,

means for communicating to the subscriber, the availability of said at least one available second phone number.

Claim 23 (currently amended): In a communication network, a method for processing a phone call comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving dialed digits from a calling party corresponding to a phone number;

attempting to place a phone call connection from said calling party through the network to said phone number;

determining that said phone number is one of a changed phone number and disconnected phone number; and,

communicating with said calling party to determine whether said calling party may be interested in subscribing to at least one of a said phone number and any available phone number.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A method for notifying a subscriber comprising ~~the steps of~~:

generating a first list having at least one available phone number available for subscription;

generating a second list having at least one subscriber, each subscriber having a subscriber profile and at least one subscriber phone number wherein each said subscriber phone number relating to said subscriber profile and corresponds to said at least one available phone number available for subscription; and,

communicating to said at least one subscriber from said second list ~~to notify the subscriber regarding the availability of said at least one available phone number from said second list~~ corresponding to said at least one subscriber phone number from said first list.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A The method, as set forth in claim 24, wherein said first list is a product list and said second list is a contact list.